

BOROUGH OF SALE.



REPORT  
ON THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE YEAR 1940.

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Medical Officer of Health.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

**For the year ending 31st December, 1940.**

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To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Sale.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the work of your Public Health Department for the year 1940. This report is drawn up on the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health Circular 2314.

It should be noted that this is an interim report only and is confined to a bare statement of vital statistics and particulars of infectious diseases. It is hoped that after the termination of the war a report will be made dealing more fully with the period from the beginning of 1939 to the end of the last complete year giving separate statistics for each year in order that the annual records may, as far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

The year 1940, may be said to have been the first real War year, as prior to this time the War did not greatly affect the inhabitants of this Borough. During this year, large numbers of people spent a considerable amount of time in Air Raid shelters and we have been fortunate to escape from any large scale epidemic. This is, no doubt, due in part to the Government policy of many small instead of few large Air Raid shelters. The Anderson and the Morrison shelters are, in my opinion, greatly to be commended.

The vital statistics are satisfactory and show a decline in the number of cases of the previously notifiable infectious diseases. This is the first full year in which Measles and

Whooping Cough were notifiable and so we have no comparable records for this Borough. Comparisons of the incidence of these diseases in this Borough with that of the country as a whole will be found in the body of the report. It was not necessary to close any school for Infectious Disease during the year.

As this report, for various reasons, is very late in going to Press, I am able to include the comparative figures for all Infectious Diseases for 1941, when it will be noted that once again there is a decline in the number of cases of these diseases.

I wish to record my grateful thanks to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Councillor J. E. Hilton, and members of that Committee. My thanks are also due to the staff of the Public Health Department and all the other officials of this Council, who have continued to give me their loyal support.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK APPLETON,

Medical Officer of Health.

## **BOROUGH OF SALE.**

### **Statistical Summary and Social Conditions of the Area.**

**Area** ... .. 3,628.5 acres.

#### **Population.**

Medical Officer's estimate of the Population... 41,250  
Registrar General's estimate of the resident  
population (mid 1940) ... .. 39,270

#### **Houses.**

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940)  
according to rate books (approx.)... .. 12,350

#### **Rateable Value.**

Rateable value of the district (end of 1940)...£318,126  
Sum represented by a 1d. rate ... .. £1,215

#### **Social Conditions of the Area.**

There is no change in the social conditions.

#### **Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year 1940.**

##### **Births.**

<b>Live Births.</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Total</b>
Legitimate	308	286	594
Illegitimate	7	7	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	315	293	608

Birthrate per thousand of the Medical Officer's  
estimated resident population ... .. 14.74

Birthrate per thousand of the Registrar  
General's estimated resident population ... 15.48

Birthrate for England and Wales ... .. 14.6

<b>Still Births.</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Total</b>
Legitimate	15	9	24
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	15	9	24

Rate per thousand (live and still births)... .. 37.97

<b>Deaths.</b>	Males	Females	Total
Total number of deaths	251	251	502
Rate per thousand of the Medical Officer's estimated resident population	12.17		
Rate per thousand of the Registrar General's estimated resident population	...	...	12.78
Deathrate for England and Wales 1940	...	...	14.3
Corrected Deathrate (12.78 x 1.06)	...	...	13.55

<b>Deaths from Puerperal Causes.</b>	Rate per thousand Deaths (live and still births)
Puerperal sepsis	1 1.58

### **Infantile Deaths.**

All infants under one year of age—Total deaths	39
Deathrate of all infants per 1,000 live births...	64.14
Deathrate of all legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	63.97
Deathrate of all illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	71.43

### **Deaths from Tuberculosis.**

#### **Respiratory System**

Males	Females	Total
8	5	13

#### **Non Respiratory System.**

Males	Females	Total
2	0	2

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Total Deaths...15

### **Deaths from Cancer.**

Males	Females	Total
23	23	46

**Deaths from Diarrhœa** under two years of age ... .. 2

## **Notes on Vital Statistics.**

The principal causes of death were as follows:--

Diseases of Heart and Circulation ...	147	(139)
Cancer .....	46	(58)
Cerebral Haemorrhage .....	44	(32)
Pneumonia .....	25	(18)
Tuberculosis .....	15	(14)
Premature birth .....	8	(14)

The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1939.

## **Natural Increase in Population.**

The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 106.

## **Infantile Mortality and Maternal Mortality.**

It will be noted that the infantile deaths show an increase on the previous year, there being 39 infant deaths during 1940 as compared with 18 in 1939, and our infantile mortality rate is 64.14, as compared with 31.25 for 1939. The figure for the Country as a whole is 55.0. There is a fall, however, in the maternal mortality rate which is 1.58 compared with 1.67 for 1939.

The figure for the country as a whole is 2.16.

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## **Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.**

The following Table shows the number of cases of each of the diseases notified during the year, the number sent to hospital and the deaths from these diseases. An additional table is given showing the corresponding figures for 1941.



### Notifiable Diseases.

(Other than Tuberculosis) during 1940.

Disease.	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Small-Pox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	25	8	—
Diphtheria ... ..	17	15	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	1	—
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	25	1*	24
Erysipelas ... ..	8	3	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..	8	7	5
Measles ... ..	510	1	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	120	—	—
Pneumococcal Meningitis ... ..	1	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	—	—
Total...	717	38	29

\* Number of cases admitted to hospital unknown ; these cases are admitted by the general practitioners directly to hospital.

### Notifiable Diseases.

(Other than Tuberculosis) during 1941.

Disease.	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Small-Pox ... ..	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	23	3
Diphtheria ... ..	14	14
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	3	3
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	27	2
Erysipelas ... ..	6	2
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..	3	3
Measles ... ..	258	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	177	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	—
Dysentery ... ..	1	—
Total...	514	28



The following Table gives the age-incidence of the above mentioned Notifiable Diseases.

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Whooping Cough	Measles	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Pneumo-coccal Meningitis	Acute Poliomyelitis
0—	—	—	—	—	—	8	10	—	—	—
1—	—	3	1	—	—	8	36	—	—	—
2—	—	1	1	—	—	7	32	1	—	—
3—	1	2	—	—	—	12	48	—	—	1
4—	1	4	—	—	—	22	31	—	—	—
5—	10	3	1	—	—	63	326	1	—	—
10—	7	2	1	—	—	—	17	2	—	—
15—	2	1	3	1	—	—	4	—	1	—
20—	3	—	4	1	1	—	5	2	—	—
35—	1	—	7	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
45—	—	1	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL	25	17	25	8	1	120	510	8	1	1

**Ward Distribution of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases.**

	North	South	East	West	Central	St. Martins	St. Marys	Mersey	Total
Scarlet Fever ... ..	3	6	2	4	2	2	4	2	25
Diphtheria ... ..	—	5	4	2	—	3	1	2	17
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia ... ..	3	5	1	3	2	4	6	1	25
Erysipelas ... ..	1	2	—	3	1	—	1	—	8
Ophthalmia Neonat..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles ... ..	42	112	136	32	40	50	90	28	510
Whooping Cough ...	14	28	6	20	8	19	18	7	120
Cerebro Spinal Men.	1	1	—	2	—	2	2	—	8
	64	160	149	66	53	60	122	41	715

**Diphtheria.**

The incidence of Diphtheria was less during 1940 than in 1939, when it was again less than 1938. 109 cases were notified in 1936, 41 in 1937, 36 in 1938, 19 in 1939 and 17 in 1940. This gives a rate of 0.42 per thousand of the population as compared with 0.5 for 1939. The rate for the country as a whole in 1.16, so that our rate is considerably below that for the country as a whole. Possibly one of the causes of the comparatively small number of cases of Diphtheria is the fact that immunisation has been carried on in this district for some considerable time.

There were no deaths from Diphtheria during the year 1940.

**Diphtheria Immunisation in Sale.**

**1940. Schools and Clinics.**

Glebelands Road School .....	64
St. Anne's School .....	2
Urban Road School .....	77
Woodheys Council School .....	82
Park Road School .....	130
Springfield School .....	62
St. Martin's School .....	96
St. Mary's School .....	66
Norris Road School .....	51
Girls High School .....	37
Boy's High School .....	67
Total.....	734
Clinic .....	186
Total.....	920

Year	Under 5 yrs. of age	5 to 8	8 upwards	Total
1935	123	564	1276	1963
1936	83	83	90	256
1937	62	46	48	156
1938	64	58	32	154
1939	98	224	169	491
<b>1940</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>920</b>
Total	632	1270	2038	3940

**Scarlet Fever.**

The incidence of Scarlet Fever was less during 1940 than during 1939. 25 cases were notified as compared with 77 cases in 1939. This gives us a rate of 0.62 per thousand of the population as compared with 1.97 for 1939 and 1.63 for the country as a whole.

8 cases were admitted to hospital or 32% of the cases notified. There were no deaths from this disease during 1940.

The policy has been not to admit cases of uncomplicated Scarlet Fever to hospital where they can be adequately nursed at home with proper isolation.

### **Erysipelas.**

8 cases were notified during the year as compared with 8 in 1939. This gives us a rate per thousand of 0.20, as compared with 0.33 for the country as a whole and 0.20 for 1939.

### **Pneumonia.**

There were 25 cases of Pneumonia notified during the year as compared with 9 in 1939. This gives a case rate per thousand of 0.62 as compared with 1.20 for the country as a whole and 0.24 for 1939.

There were 24 deaths from this disease as compared with 18 in 1939. This gives a mortality rate of 0.60 per thousand of the population as compared with 0.46 for 1939.

### **Measles.**

There were 510 cases of Measles notified during the year giving a case rate of 12.75 per thousand as compared with 10.24 for the country as a whole.

### **Whooping Cough.**

There were 120 cases of Whooping Cough notified during the year, giving a case rate of 3.0 per thousand as compared with 1.34 for the country as a whole.

### **Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.**

There were 8 cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis notified during the year giving a case rate of 0.20 per thousand, as compared with 0.32 for the country as a whole. There were no cases notified during 1939.

### **Puerperal Pyrexia.**

There was one case of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year. This was admitted to hospital.

### **Tuberculosis.**

There were 15 deaths from Tuberculosis (10 males and 5 females) during the year, of which 13 were pulmonary cases (8 males and 5 females) as compared with 14 deaths in 1939.

Abstract of Annual Figures from Register of Tuberculosis Cases.

	Males		Females		Total
	Pul-monary.	Non-Pul-monary.	Pul-monary.	Non-Pul-monary.	
Number on Register 1st Jan., 1940.....	77	39	59	38	213
New Notifications, 1940 .....	19	5	9	3	36
Restored to Register	3	—	1	—	4
Cases brought to notice, otherwise than by formal notification (in ward transfers, un-notified cases from Death Returns) ...	4	2	6	1	13
Removed from Register, Deaths Outward Transfers, Recovered .....	19	7	12	2	40
Number on Register, 31st Dec., 1940 ...	84	39	63	40	226

The following Table shows the age and sex distribution of new cases of Tuberculosis (including cases coming to knowledge other than by formal notification), and a similar distribution of deaths from Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15 „ ...	1	1	5	4	—	1	2	—
15 to 25 „ ...	3	3	1	—	1	1	—	—
25 to 35 „ ...	8	10	1	—	1	1	—	—
35 to 45 „ ...	3	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 to 55 „ ...	8	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55 to 65 „ ...	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
65 and upwards ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	26	16	7	4	8	5	2	—

Total Deaths from Tuberculosis 15.

Notified within 3 months of death.....5—33⅓%.

## **Cancer and Malignant Disease.**

Deaths from Cancer and other forms of Malignant Disease amounted to 46 or 9.16% of the total deaths. Last year the corresponding figure was 58 or 14.43% of the total deaths.

There were 23 deaths amongst males and 23 amongst females.

## **Laboratory Facilities.**

As we have no laboratory in Sale, the specimens were submitted to the Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine of the University of Manchester, and the Laboratory of Evans Biological Institute, Runcorn.

During the year 1940 the following specimens were examined:—

10 throat and nose swabs for Diphtheria none of which was positive (University of Manchester).

161 throat and nose swabs were examined of which 15 were positive (Evans Biological Institute).

2 specimens of sputum were bacteriologically examined for Tubercle Bacillus by the Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine of the University of Manchester. Both were negative.

69 specimens of sputum were bacteriologically examined for Tubercle Bacillus by the Public Health Laboratory of the County of Chester, 9 of which were positive.





